**Information Sheet – 9/13/16 - Board of Trustees Meeting**

TO: Board of Trustees Item: 8.1

FR: Celli Coeville

DATE: September 13, 2016

RE: Policy Updates First Reading, BP 5123; BP/AR 5127.1

Promotion/Acceleration/Retention – See BP 5123
(BP Revised) Minor revisions were made under the "Promotion" portion of BP 5123 regarding graduation requirements and students' cumulative grade point average.

Graduation Standards – See BP 5127.1 See AR 5127.1
(BP/AR Revised) Minor revisions were made as the District has reinstituted Summer School which allows students to earn additional credit.

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**PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION**

The district is dedicated to providing the best possible education for all its students. The staff is expected to place students at the grade level best suited to them academically, socially, and emotionally. Students will normally progress annually from grade to grade.

The Board of Trustees and the school district expect students to progress through each grade within one school year. To accomplish this, instruction should accommodate the varying interests and growth patterns of individual students and include strategies for addressing academic progress when needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade level standards of expected student achievement.

**Promotion**

Students shall progress through all grade levels by demonstrating growth and meeting district promotional standards. Students will be promoted by earning passing grades or by maintaining an average to above-average performance. Students graduating from eighth grade must ~~meet~~ earn a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 grade scale in all subjects (including electives for their 6th, 7th, and 8th grade years. ~~GPA for 7th and 8th grade and portfolio assessment requirements~~.

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Students who fail to meet the minimum requirements for graduation may nevertheless be promoted to the ninth grade if (1) the student's regular classroom teachers determine~~s~~, in writing, that retention is not the appropriate intervention for the student's academic deficiencies; or (2) the regular classroom teacher's decision to retain the student is successfully appealed. Before being, promoted, such students must satisfy all conditions to their promotion which are established by the regular classroom teacher and/or the district. ~~At a minimum, such students will be expected to complete portfolio assessments in order to receive a certificate of completion and be eligible for high school.~~

**Remediation** (for retained students and students at risk of being retained)

When a student is recommended for retention or is identified as being at risk for retention, the Superintendent or designee shall provide opportunities for remedial instruction to address the student's academic progress. Such opportunities may include, but are not limited to, tutorial programs, after-school programs, summer school programs, or implementation of a student study team recommendation.

The district will choose from the following to qualify students for remediation:

1. Teacher recommendation based on informal assessment

2. Student Study Team recommendation

3. ~~STAR CST~~CAASPP ELA/Math ("~~Basic~~Standard Nearly Met" or below)

**PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION** (continued)

4. GPA below 2.0 or need to improve on report card

5. Failing grades on reading, English, language arts and math (4th through 8th grades); reading and writing and math (1st through 3rd grades)

**Retention**

As early as possible in the school year, or at the earliest grade level, teachers or designees shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained in accordance with law, board policy, administrative regulation, and established district criteria.

The district has established district promotional standards for promotion and retention in grades K-8.

In order to retain a student, the teacher (s) shall determine that:

1. The student did not meet district promotional standards

2. Remedial help for the student did not sufficiently prepare the student for advancement to the next grade

3. Appropriate intervention targeted to the student's needs was not successful

4. Parents/guardians were notified and given reasons for the retention

When it is determined that retention is necessary, parents/guardians will be notified. Parents shall be expected to participate in a student study team. The SST shall recommend promotion or retention based on the student's academic performance.

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION** (continued)

*Legal Reference:*

*EDUCATION CODE*
*37252-37253 Summer school*
*46300 Method of computing ADA*
*48011 Admission on completing kindergarten; grade placement of pupils coming from other districts*
*48070-48070.5 Promotion and retention*
*48431.6 Required systematic review of students and grading*
*56345 Elements of individualized education plan*
*60641-60647 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program*
*60648 Minimum performance levels*
*60850-60856 Exit examination*
*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*
*200-202 Admission and exclusion of students*

*Management Resources:*

*CDE MANAGEMENT ADVISORIES*
*0900.90 Changes in Law Concerning Eligibility for Admission to Kindergarten 90-10*
*LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S OPINION*
*Promotion and Retention #21610*
*CSBA ADVISORIES*
*0901.99 Social Promotion/Retention Policy Briefing: Considerations for English Language Learners*
*1112.98 Student Promotion/Retention Advisory*
*WEB SITES*
*CSBA: http://www.csba.org*
*CDE: http://www.cde.ca.gov*

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**GRADUATION STANDARDS**

The Board of Trustees shall confer a diploma on students who meet either of the following requirements:

1. The student has earned a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 grade scale in all subjects (including electives) for their 6th, 7th and 8th grade years. When a student received an "incomplete" on a report card due to absences, he/she has three weeks after the end of the trimester to complete the grade(s).

2. a. The student has successfully completed his/her Individualized Educational Plan (Special Education), Individual Language Plan (English Learner Program), or a general education 504 Plan.

   b. The student has passed the approved differential standards described in the Individualized Educational Plan, Individual Language Plan, or 504 Plan.

Students who have not earned a 2.0 cumulative grade point average or have not successfully completed their Individualized Educational Plan, Individual Language Plan, or 504 Plan for their 6th, 7th and 8th grade years combined will not receive a Jefferson School District Diploma; participate in the annual graduation ~~trips,~~ activities~~, and~~ and ceremony.~~; or the graduation dance.~~

**GRADUATION STANDARDS**

Students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades will be closely monitored during the school year(s). Students with an accumulated grade point average lower than 2.0 in any trimester will first be referred to the Student Success Team (SST, 504, or IEP) process and a plan will be developed to enable the student the opportunity to ~~improve his/her academic standing~~become eligible to graduate from the Jefferson School District. If a student is required to attend a Before or After-School Intervention Program during 6th, 7th or 8th grades and they successfully completed it, they will be awarded a .22 adjustment to their cumulative GPA for the ~~year~~trimester it is completed in. Students must successfully complete 30 hours of a Before or After-School Intervention Program to be eligible for the .22 adjustment. ~~This adjustment should not exceed a cumulative GPA of 2.0.~~In addition, students that successfully complete 80 hours of Summer School will receive a .44 adjustment to their third trimester cumulative GPA. These adjustments should not exceed a cumulative GPA of 2.5.

Transfer students with a cumulative grade point average ~~of~~ under a 2.0 grade point average for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades will also be referred to the SST, 504 or IEP process and a plan will be developed to enable the student the opportunity to become eligible to graduate from Jefferson School District.

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Regulation
approved: November 10, 2009

**JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Tracy, California